THE WONDERFVL DISCOVERIE OF THE

Witchcrafts of *Margaret* and *Phillip Flower*, daughters of *Ioan Flower* neere *Beuer Castle*: Executed at Lincolne, *March* 11. 1618.

Who were specially arraigned and condemned before Sir *Henry Hobart*, and Sir *Edward Bromley*, Iudges of Assise, for confessing themselues actors in the destruction of *Henry* Lord *Rosse*, with their damnable practises against others the Children of the Right Honourable FRANCIS Earle of *Rutland*.

Together with the seuerall Examinations and Confessions of *Anne Baker*, *Ioan Willimot*, and *Ellen Greene*, Witches in *Leicestershire*.

Printed for London by *G. Eld* for *I. Barnes*, dwelling in the [illegible] neere Christ-Church. 16[illegible]

THE WONDERFVL DISCOVERIE OF THE Witchcrafts of Margaret and Philip

Wife and daughters of Iohn Flower and Iane

Who were Specially arraigned and condemned before Sir Henry Hobart, and Sir Edward Dymoke, Iudges of Assise

Together with the Examinations and Confessions of diuers of the Children of the Aforesaid.

THE WONDERFVLL *DISCOVERIE OF THE*

Witch-craftes of *Margaret* and *Phillip* Flower, *Daughters of* Ioan Flower, by BEAVER CASTLE, and executed at LINCOLNE the 11. *of March.* 1618.

MY meaning is not to make any contentious Arguments about the discourses, distinction or definition of Witchcraft, the power of Diuells, the nature of Spirits, the force of Charmes, the secrets of Incantation, and such like; because the Scriptures are full of prohibitions to this purpose, and proclaimes death to the presumptuous attemp-

ters of the ſame: Beſides both Princes (yea our owne learned and moſt iudicious King) Philoſophers, Poets, Chronologers, Hiſtoriographers, and many worthy Writers, haue concurred and concluded in this; that diuers impious and facinorous miſchiefes haue beene effectuated through the inſtruments of the Diuell, by permiſſion of God, ſo that the actors of the ſame haue carried away the opinion of the world, to doe that which they did by Witchcraft, or at leaſt to be eſteemed Witches, for bringing ſuch and ſuch things to paſſe: For howſoeuer the learned haue charactred delinquents in this kinde by titles of ſundry ſortes, and moſt ſignificant attributes; as *Pythoniſſæ* dealing with artificiall Charmes; *Magi* anciently reputed ſo, for extraordinary wiſedome and knowledge in the ſecrets of ſimples and hearbes; *Chaldei*, famous for Aſtronomy and Aſtrology; *Necromancers* for practiſing to raiſe dead bodies, and by them to foretell euents of the earth; *Geomantici*, for conuerſing with Spirits, and vſing Inchantations;

Geneth-

Genethliaci, for presuming on the calculating of Natiuities, or if you will, assuming the credit of Figure-casting; *Ventriloqui*, for speaking with hollow voyces as if they were possessed with Diuells; *Venefici*, for dealing with Poyson, and either killing or curing that way: For you must vnderstand howeuer the Professors aforesaid practise murther and mischiefe, yet many times they Pretend cures and preseruation; with many others, carrying the shew of great learning and admired knowledge; yet haue they all but one familier tearme with vs in English called Witches. As for the conceit of wisemen or wise woemen, they are all meerely cosoners and deceiuers; so that if they make you beleeue that by their meanes you shall heare of things lost or stolne, it is either done by Confederacy, or put off by protraction to deceiue you of your money.

Only (as I said before) there bee certaine men and women growne in yeares, and ouer-growne with Melancholly and Atheisme, who out of a malicious dispositi-

on against their betters, or others thriuing by them; but most times from a heart-burning desire of reuenge, hauing entertained some impression of displeasure, and vnkindnesse, study nothing but mischiefe and exoticke practises of loathsome Artes and Sciences: yet I must needes say, that sometimes the fained reputation of wisedome, cunning, and to be reputed a dangerous and skilfull person, hath so preuailed with diuers, that they haue taken vpon them indeed to know more then God euer afforded any creature, & to performe no lesse then the Creator both of Heauen & earth; making you beleeue with *Medea*, that they can raise tempests, turne the Sunne into blood, pull the Moone out of her Spheare, and saile ouer the Sea in a cockle shell, according to the Poet.

Flectere si nequeam Superos, Acheronta mouebo.

If Art doe faile to moue the Gods
consent vnto my minde:
I will the Diuells raise, to doe
what they can in their kinde.

But howsoeuer speciall persons are transported with an opinion of their owne worth, and preuailing in this kinde, yet by lamentable experience we know too well, what monstrous effects haue bene produced, euen to the horror of the hearers, and damnation of their owne soules by such kinde of people: For as it is in the tale of the enuious man, that put out one of his eyes to haue his companion loose both; so fareth it with them and worse, to giue away their soules to bee reuenged of their aduersaries bodies, wherein the monstrous subtilty of the Diuell is so apparant, that it is wonderfull one way to relate, and lamentable another way to obserue the same. For no sooner shall such motiues poyson the inward conceite or apprehension of such damnable Caitiffes: But then steppeth forth the Diuell, and not onely sheweth them the way, but prescribeth the manner of effecting the same, with facility and easinesse, assuring that hee himselfe will attend them in some familiar shape of Rat, Cat, Toad,

Bird, Cricket, &c: yea effectuate whatsoeuer they shall demaund or desire, and for their better assurance and corroboration of their credulity, they shall haue palpable and forcible touches of sucking, pinching, kissing, closing, colling and such like: whereupon, without any feare of God or Man, knowledge of Christ, hope of redemption, confidence of mercy, or true beleefe that there is any other thing to bee looked after but this present World; according to that Athiesticall position of *Epicurus*.

Ede, bibe, lude, post mortem nulla voluptas.

Eat, drink, sport, play and take thy pleasures rest:
For after death, who knowes what shall be best.

They admit of those execrable conditions of commutation of soules for the entertaining of the spirits, and so fall to their abhominable practises, continuing in the same till God laugh them to scorne, and will by no meanes suffer them to abuse his holy name nor deceiue others by their prophane liues

any longer: Witnesse for the generall those infinite Treatises of many of them conuinced by Law, and condemned to death, to the fearefull example of all carnall and hypocriticall Christians: but more especially you may ouer-looke (if you please) that learned Discourse of *Dæmonologie*, composed in forme of a Dialogue, by the High and mighty Prince, *IAMES* by the grace of God, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland*, *&c.* and printed (as I take it) according to the coppy of *Edenburgh*, 1603. As also a Treatise of Witch-craft made by that learned Mr. *Alexander Roberts* Preacher at Kings-Line in Norfolke, 1615. vpon the discouery of the Witch-crafts of *Mary Smith*, wife of *Henry Smith* Glouer, with her vocall contract betweene the Diuell and her selfe, in sollemne tearmes, and such like imposturing filthinesse: with many hurts and mischiefes which thereby she procured: As also a certaine discouery 1611. made by *Iohn Cotta* Doctor of Phisicke in Northampton of Empericks, woemen about sicke persons:

Quack-

Quacksaluers, and fugitiues, which seeme to worke iuggling wonders, Surgeons, Apothecaries, practisers by spells, the true discouery of Witch-craft, especially in the sicke with many instances in that kind, Wisards, and seruants, of Phisitions, who may bee called ministring helpers: To this hee hath added the *Methodian* learned deceiuer, or hereticke Phisition, Astrologers, *Ephemerides*-maisters, Coniecters by vrine, Trauellers, and last of all, the true Artist his right description and election. As also a Dialogue concerning Witches and Witchcraft, composed by *George Gifford*, Minister of Gods word in Maldon, 1603. Wherein the cunning of the Diuell is discouered, both concerning the deceiuing of witches, and seducing of others into many great errors: As also an ancient discourse of the fearefull practises of foure notorious French Witches, with the manner of their strange execution. As also the seuerall and damnable practises of Mother *Sutton* of Milton Miles in the County of Bedford, and *Mary Sutton* her Daughter,

who

who were arraigned, condemned, and executed for the same: As also 1612. the wonderfull discouery of Witches in Lancashire, being 19. in number, notorious for many infamed actions, and conuicted before Sr. *Iames Altham*, and S. *Edward Bromley*, Barons of the Exchequer, together with the arraignment and triall of *Iennet Preston*, at Yorke, with her fearefull execution for the murthering of Mr. *Lisker* by Witch-craft; with infinite other relations concerning the generall conuiction of Witches, and their practises, and condemnation of the particular opinion of some men, who suppose there bee none at all, or at least that they doe not personally or truely effect such things as are imputed vnto them, and which out of some dangerous impression of melancholly, vaineglory, or some other diseased operation, they assume to themselues by reason of a former contract with the Diuell. And so much for the certainty of Story, and fearefulnesse of the truth concerning the damnable practises of Witches and cunning of the Diuell to deceiue them.

But yet because the mind of man may be carried away with many idle coniectures, either that woemen confessed these things by extreamity of torture, or that ancient examples are by this time forgotten (although the particulars are vpon record, for the benefit of all posteritie:) Or that they were besides themselues, or subiect to some weake deuise or other, rather to bring in question the integrity of *Iustice*; then to make odious the liues of such horrible offendors. I haue presumed to present on the *Stage* of verity for the good of my Country & the loue of truth, the late wofull Tragedy of the destruction of the *Right Honourable* the *Earle* of *Rutlands* Children, who to his eternall praise proceeded yet both religiously and charitably against the offenders, leauing their prosecution to the law and submitting himselfe, and deplorable case to the prouidence of God, who afflicteth his best seruants with punishments, and many times, sendeth extraordinary vengeance as well on the innocent, as the bad deseruer, to manifest his glory:

There-

Therefore by way of Caution I aduiſe thee (gentle Reader) whoſoeuer thou art, to take heede how thou doeſt either deſpiſe the power of God in his Creatures, or vilipend the ſubtilty and fury of the Diuell, as Gods inſtrument of vengeance, conſidering that truth in deſpight of gaine ſayers will preuaile, according to that principle: *Magna eſt veritas & preualebit.*

The Story followes.

AFter the Right Honourable Sr. *Francis Manners* ſucceeded his Brother in the Earledome of Rutland: and ſo not onely tooke poſſeſſion of Beauer Caſtle, but of all other his demeanes, Lordſhips, Townes, Mannors, Lands, and Reuennues appropriate to the ſame Earledome: hee proceeded ſo honourably in the courſe of his life, as neither diſplacing Tenants, diſchatging ſeruants, denying the acceſſe of the poore, welcoming of ſtrangers, and performing all the duties of a noble Lord, that

hee fastened as it were vnto himselfe the loue and good opinion of the Countrey wherein he walked the more cheerefully and remarkable, because his honourable Countesse marched arme in arme with him in the same race; so that Beauer Castle was a continuall Pallace of entertainment, and a daily receptacle for all sorts both rich and poore, especially such auncient people as neighboured the same; amongst whom one *Ioane Flower*, with her Daughters *Margaret* and *Philip* were not onely relieued at the first from thence, but quickly entertained as Chair-women, and *Margaret* admitted as a continuall dweller in the Castle, looking both to the poultrey abroad and the wash-house within dores: In which life they continued with equall correspondency, till something was discouered to the noble Lady, which concerned the misdemeanour of these women. And although such honourable persons shall not want of all sorts of people, either to bring the newes, tales, reports, or to serue their turne in all offices whatsoeuer; so that it may well

be

bee ſaid of them, as it is of great Kings and Princes, that they haue large hands, wide eares, and piercing ſights to diſcouer the vnſwept corners of their remoteſt confines, to reach euen to their furtheſt borders, and to vnderſtand the ſecrets of their meaneſt ſubiects: yet in this matter, neither were they buſie-bodies, flatterers, malicious politians, vnderminers, nor ſupplanters one of anothers good fortune; but went ſimply to worke, as regarding the honor of the Earle and his Lady, and ſo by degrees gaue light to their vnderſtanding to apprehend their complaints. Firſt, that *Ioane Flower* the Mother was a monſtrous malicious woman, full of oathes, curſes, and imprecations irreligious, and for any thing they ſaw by her, a plaine Atheiſt; beſides of late dayes her very countenance was eſtranged, her eyes were fiery and hollow, her ſpeech fell and enuious, her demeanour ſtrange and exoticke, and her conuerſation ſequeſtred; ſo that the whole courſe of her life gaue great ſuſpition that ſhe was a notorious Witch, yea ſome of her

neighbours dared to affirme that shee dealt with familiar spirits, and terrified them all with curses and threatning of reuenge, if there were neuer so little cause of displeasure and vnkindnesse. Concerning *Margaret*, that shee often resorted from the Castle to her Mother, bringing such prouision as they thought was vnbefitting for a seruant to purloyne, and comming at such vnseasonable houres, that they could not but coniecture some mischiefe between them, and that their extraordinary ryot & expences, tended both to rob the Lady, & to maintaine certaine deboist and base company which frequented this *Ioane Flowers* house the mother, & especially her youngest Daughter. Concerning *Phillip*, that she was lewdly transported with the loue of one *Th: Simpson*, who presumed to say, that shee had bewitched him: for hee had no power to leaue her, and was as hee supposed maruellously altred both in minde and body, since her acquainted company: these complaints began many yeares before either their conuiction, or publique

apprehenſion: Notwithſtanding ſuch was the honour of this Earle and his Lady; ſuch was the cunning of this monſtrous woman in obſeruation towards them; ſuch was the ſubtilty of the Diuell to bring his purpoſes to paſſe; ſuch was the pleaſure of God to make tryall of his ſeruants; and ſuch was the effect of a damnable womans wit and malitious enuy, that all things were carried away in the ſmooth Channell of liking and good entertainment on euery ſide, vntill the Earle by degrees conceiued ſome miſlike againſt her; and ſo, peraduenture eſtranged himſelfe from that familiaritie and accuſtomed conferrences hee was wont to haue with her: vntill one *Peate* offered her ſome wrong; againſt whom ſhee complained, but found that my Lord did not affect her clamours, and malicious information, vntill one Mr. *Vauaſor* abandoned her company, as either ſuſpicious of her lewd life, or diſtaſted with his owne miſliking of ſuch baſe and poore Creatures, whom no body loued but the Earles

houshold; vntill the Counteſſe miſconceiuing of her daughter *Margaret*, and diſcouering ſome vndecencies both in her life and neglect of her buſineſſe, diſcharged her from lying any more in the Caſtle, yet gaue her 40. s. a bolſter, & a mattreſſe of wooll: commanding her to go home, vntil the ſlackneſſe of her repayring to the Caſtle, as ſhee was wont, did turne her loue and liking toward this honourable Earle and his family into hate and rancor: wherevpon deſpighted to bee ſo neglected, and exprobrated by her neighbours for her Daughters caſting out of dores, and other conceiued diſpleaſures, ſhe grew paſt all ſhame and Woman-hood, and many times curſed them all that were the cauſe of this diſcontentment, and made her ſo loathſome to her former familiar friends, and beneficiall acquaintance.

When the Diuell perceiued the inficious diſpoſition of this wretch, and that ſhe and her Daughters might eaſily bee made inſtruments to enlarge his Kingdome, and bee as it were the executioners of his vengeance;

not

not caring whether it lighted vpon innocents or no, he came more neerer vnto them, and in plaine tearmes to come quickly to the purpose, offered them his seruice, and that in such a manner, as they might easily command what they pleased: For hee would attend you in such prety formes of dog, cat, or Rat, that they should neither be terrified, nor any body else suspicious of the matter. Vpon this they agree, and (as it should seeme) giue away their soules for the seruice of such spirits, as he had promised them; which filthy conditions were ratified with abhominable kisses, and an odious sacrifice of blood, not leauing out certaine charmes and coniurations with which the Diuell deceiued them, as though nothing could bee done without ceremony, and a solemnity of orderly ratification. By this time doth Sathan triumph, and goeth away satisfied to haue caught such fish in the net of his illusions: By this time are these women Diuels incarnate, and grow proud againe in their cunning and artificiall power, to doe what mischiefe they listed: By

this time they haue learnt the manner of inchantations, Spells and Charmes: By this time they kill what Cattle they list, and vnder the couert of flattery and familiar entertainment, keepe hidden the stinging serpent of mallice, and a venomous inclination to mischiefe: By this time is the Earle and his familie threatened, and must feele the burthen of a terrible tempest, which from these womens Diuellish deuises fell vppon him, hee neither suspecting nor vnderstanding the same: By this time both himselfe and his honourable Countesse, are many times subiect to sickenesse and extraordinary conuulsions, which they taking as gentle corrections from the hand of God, submit with quietnesse to his mercy, and study nothing more, then to glorifie their Creator in heauen, and beare his crosses on earth.

At last, as mallice increased in these damnable Women; so his family felt the smart of their reuenge and inficious disposition. For his eldest Sonne *Henry* Lord

Rosse sickened very strangely, and after a while died: his next named *Francis* Lord *Rosse* accordingly, was seuerely tormented by them, and most barbarously and inhumanely tortured by a strange sickenesse; not long after the Lady *Katherine* was set vpon by their dangerous and diuellish practises, and many times in great danger of life, through extreame maladies and vnusuall fits, nay (as it should seeme, and they afterwards confessed) both the Earle and his Countesse were brought into their snares as they imagined, and indeed determined to keepe them from hauing any more children. Oh vnheard of wickednesse and mischieuous damnation? Notwithstanding all this did the noble Earle attend his Maiesty, both at New-market before Christmas, and at Christmas at Whitehall; bearing the losse of his Children most nobly, and little suspecting that they had miscarried by Witch-craft, or such like inuentions of the Diuell, vntill it pleased God to discouer the villanous practises of these Woemen, and to command the Diuell

from execuing any further vengeance on innocents, but leaue them to their shames, and the handes of Iustice, that they might not onely be confounded for their villanous practises, but remaine as a notorious example to all ages of his iudgement and fury. Thus were they apprehended about Christmas, and carried to Lincolne layle, after due examination, before sufficient Iustices of the Peace, and discreete Maiestrates, who wondred at their audacious wickednes, but *Ioane Flower* the Mother before conuiction, (as they say) called for Bread and Butter, and wished it might neuer goe through her if she were guilty of that wherevpon shee was examined; so mumbling it in her mouth, neuer spake more wordes after, but fell downe and dyed as shee was carryed to Lincolne Goale, with a horrible excruciation of soule and body, and was buried at *Ancaster*.

When the Earle heard of their apprehension, hee hasted downe with his brother Sr. *George*, and somtimes examining them himselfe, and sometimes sending them to others;

at last left them to the triall of Law, before the Iudges of assise at *Lincolne;* and so they were conuicted of murther and executed accordingly, about the 11. of *March*, to the terror of all the beholders, and example of such dissolute and abhominable Creatures, and because you shall haue both cause to glorifie God for this discouery, and occasion to apprehend the strangenesse of their liues, and truth of their proceedings: I thought it both meete and conuenient to lay open their own Examinations and Euidences against one another, with such apparrant circumstances, as doe not onely shew the cause of their mislike and distasting against the Earle and his family; but the manner of their proceedings and reuenges, with other particulars belonging to the true and plaine discouery of their villany and Witch-craft.

The Examinations of

Anne Baker, Ioane Willimot, and *Ellen Greene*; as followeth, &c.

Anne Baker. *Ioane Willimot.* *Ellen Greene.*

THE EXAMINATION

of *Anne Baker* of *Bottesford* in the County of *Leicester Spinster*, taken *March*, 1. 1618. by the Right *Honourable*, *Francis Earle* of *Rutland*, Sir *George Manners Knight*, two of his *Maiesties Iustices* of the peace for the County of *Lincolne*, and *Samuel Fleming Doctor* of *Diuinitie*, one of his *Maiesties Fustices* of the peace for the County of *Leicester* aforesaid.

SHE *saith that there are foure colours of* Planets, *Blacke*, *Yellow*, *Greene*, *and Blew*, *and that Blacke is alwaies death*, *and that shee sawe the Blew* Plannet *strike* Thomas Fairebarne, *the eldest sonne vnto* William Fairebarne *of*

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Bottesford *aforesaid by the* Pinfold *there, within the which time the said* William Faire-barne *did beat her and breake her head, whereupon the said* Thomas Faire-barne, *did mend. And being asked who did send that Planet? answered it was not I.*

Further shee saith, that shee saw a hand appeare vnto her, and that shee heard a voyce in the ayre said vnto her: Anne Baker, *saue thy selfe, for to morrow thou and thy maister must be slaine: and the next day her maister and shee were in a Cart together; and suddainely shee saw a flash of fire, and said her prayers, and the fire went away, and shortly after a Crow came and picked vpon her cloathes, and shee said her prayers againe, and bad the Crow go to whom he was sent, and the Crow went vnto her Maister, and did beat him to death, and shee with her prayers recouered him to life; but hee was sicke a fortnight after, and saith, that if shee had not had more knowledge then her maister, both he and shee and all the Cattell had beene slaine.*

Being examined concerning a Childe of Anne Stannidge, *which shee was suspected to haue be-*

witch-

witched to death; ſaith, the ſaid Anne Stannidge did deliuer her childe into her hands, and that ſhee did lay it vpon her skirt, but did no harme vnto it; And being charged by the Mother of the childe, that vpon the burning of the haire and the paring of the nailes of the ſaid childe, the ſaid Anne Baker came in and ſet her downe, and for one houres ſpace could ſpeake nothing; confeſſeth ſhee came into the houſe of the ſaid Anne Stannidge in great paine, but did not know of the burning of the haire and nailes of the ſaid Childe; but ſaid ſhe was ſo ſicke that ſhe did not know whither ſhe went.

Being charged that ſhee bewitched Elizabeth Hough, the wife of William Hough to death, for that ſhee angred her in giuing her almes of her ſecond bread; confeſſeth that ſhe was angry with her and ſaid ſhe might haue giuen her of her better bread, for ſhe had gone too often on her errands, but more ſhe ſaith not.

This Examinat confeſſeth that ſhee came to Ioane Gylles houſe, her child being ſicke, and that ſhee intreated this Examinat to look on the Child, and to tell her whether it was forſpoken or no, and

this Examinate said it was forspoken; but when the said child died she cannot tell.

And being asked concerning Nortley carrying of his Child home vnto his owne house, where the said Anne Baker was, shee asked him, who gaue the said Child that loafe, he told her Anthony Gill, to whom this Examinate said, he might haue had a Child of his owne if hee would haue sought in time for it; which words she confessed shee did speake.

Being blamed by Henry Milles in this sort: A fire set on you, I haue had two or three ill nights; to whom shee made answere, you should haue let me alone then, which shee confesseth.

The said Anne Baker, March 2. 1618. confessed before Samuel Fleming Doctor of Diuinitie, that about 3. yeares agoe, shee went into Northamptonshire, and that at her comming back againe, one Peakes wife and Dennis his wife of Beluoyre told her that my young Lord Henry was dead, and that there was a gloue of the said Lord buried in the ground; and as that gloue did rot and wast, so did the liuer of the said Lord rot and wast.

Further shee said, March 3. 1618. *before* S^r. George Manners *Knight, and* Samuel Fleming *Doctor of Diuinity, that shee hath a Spirit which hath the shape of a white Dogge, which shee calleth her good Spirit.*

Samuel Fleming *test.*

The Examination of *Ioan Willimot*, taken the 28. of *February*, in the 16. yeare of the raigne of our Soueraigne Lord, IAMES, ouer *England* King &c. and ouer *Scotland* the 52. before *Alexander Amcotts* Esquire, one of his Maiesties Iustices of the peace of the said parts and County.

THis Examinat saith, that *Ioane Flower* told her that my Lord of *Rutland* had dealt badly with her and that they had put away her Daughter, and that although she could not haue her will of my Lord himselfe, yet she had spied my Lords Sonne and had stricken him to the heart. And she saith, that my Lords Sonne was striken with a white Spirit, and that shee can cure some that send vnto her, and that some reward her for her paines, and of some she taketh nothing.

She

She further saith, that vpon Fryday night last, her Spirit came to her and told her that there was a bad woman at *Deeping* who had giuen her soule to the Diuell: and that her said Spirit did then appeare vnto her in a more vgly forme then it had formerly done, and that it vrged her much to giue it something, although it were but a peece of her Girdle, and told her that it had taken great paines for her, but she saith that she would giue it nothing, and told it that she had sent it to no place but onely to see how my Lord *Rosse* did, and that her Spirit told her that he should doe well.

The Examination of the said *Ioan Willimott*, taken the second day of *March* in the yeare abouesaid, before the said *Alexander Amcots*.

THis Examinate saith, That shee hath a Spirit which shee calleth *Pretty*, which was giuen vnto her by *William Berry* of *Langbolme* in *Rutlandshire*, whom she serued three yeares; and that her Master when hee gaue it vnto her, willed her to open her mouth, and hee would blow into her a Fairy which should doe her good; and that shee opened her mouth, and he did blow into her mouth; and that presently after his blowing, there came out of her mouth a Spirit, which stood vpon the ground in the the shape and forme of a Woman, which Spirit did aske of her her Soule, which shee then promised vnto it, being willed thereunto by her Master. Shee further confesseth, that shee neuer hurt any body, but did helpe diuers that sent for her,

which

which were ſtricken or fore-ſpoken: and that her Spirit came weekely to her, and would tell her of diuers perſons that were ſtricken and foreſpoken. And ſhee ſaith, that the vſe which ſhee had of the Spirit, was to know how thoſe did which ſhee had vndertaken to amend; and that ſhee did helpe them by certaine prayers which ſhe vſed, and not by her owne Spirit; neyther did ſhe imploy her Spirit in any thing, but onely to bring word how thoſe did which ſhe had vndertaken to cure.

And ſhee further ſaith, that her Spirit came vnto her this laſt night (as ſhe thought) in the forme of a woman, mumbling, but ſhe could not vnderſtand what it ſaid. And being aſked whether ſhee were not in a dreame or ſlumber when ſhee thought ſhee ſaw it, ſhee ſaid no, and that ſhe was as waking as at this preſent.

Alexander Ameots.

Thomas Robinſon teſt.

The Examination of *Ioane Willimot* of *Goadby* in the County of *Leicester* VViddow, taken the 17. of *March*, 1618. by Sir *Henry Hastings* Knight, and *Samuel Fleming* Doctor of Diuinitie, two of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace of the said County of *Leicester*.

SHe saith that she tould one *Cookes* wife of *Stathorne* in the said County Labourer, that *Iohn Patchett* might haue had his Child aliue; if he would haue sought forth for it in time, and if it were not death stricken in her wayes, and that *Patchets* wife had an euill thing within her, which should make an end of her, and that she knew by her Girdle.

She saith further, that *Gamaliel Greete* of *Waltham* in the said County Shepheard, had a Spirit like a white Mouse put into him

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in his ſwearing; and that if hee did looke vpon any thing with an intent to hurt, it ſhould be hurt, and that hee had a marke on his left arme, which was cut away; and that her own ſpirit did tell her all this before it went from her.

Further ſhe ſaith, that *Ioane Flower*, *Margaret Flower* and ſhee, did meet about a weeke before *Ioane Flowers* apprehenſion, in *Blackborrow-hill*, and went from thence home to the ſaid *Ioan Flowers* houſe, and there ſhe ſaw two ſpirits, one like a Rat, and the other like an Owle; and one of them did ſucke vnder her right eare, as ſhee thought: and the ſaid *Ioan* told her, that her ſpirits did ſay that ſhee ſhould neyther be hanged nor burnt.

Further ſhe ſaith, that the ſaid *Ioan Flower* did take vp ſome earth and ſpet vpon it, and did worke it with her finger, and put it vp into her purſe, and ſaid though ſhee could not hurt the Lord himſelfe, yet ſhee had ſped his Sonne, which is dead.

H. Haſtings.

Samuel Fleming.

The Examination of *Ellen Greene* of *Stathorne* in the County of *Leicester*, taken the 17. of *March* 1618. by Sir *Henry Hastings* Kt: and *Samuel Fleming* D. of Diuinitie, two of his Maiesties Iustices of the Peace of his said County.

SHee saith, that one *Ioan Willimot* of *Goadby* came about sixe yeares since to her in the Wowlds, and perswaded this Examinate to forsake God, and betake her to the diuel, and she would giue her two spirits, to which shee gaue her consent, and thereupon the said *Ioan Willimot* called two spirits, one in the likenesse of a Kitlin, and the other of a Moldiwarp: the first the said *Willimot* called *pusse*, the other *hiffe*, *hiffe*, and they presently came to her, & she departing left them with this Examinate, and they leapt on her shoulder, and the kitlin suckt vnder her right eare on her neck, & the Moldiwarp on the left side in the like place.

After

After they had suckt her, shee sent the Kitlin to a Baker of that Towne, whose name shee remembers not, who had called her Witch & stricken her; and bad her said spirit goe and bewitch him to death: the Moldiwarpe shee then bad go to *Anne Dawse* of the same towne and bewitch her to death, because she had called this examinate witch, whore, jade, &c. and within one fortnight after they both dyed.

And further this Examinate saith, that she sent both her spirits to *Stonesby*, to one *Willison* a husbandman, & *Robert Williman* a husbandmans sonne, and bad the Kitlin goe to *Willison* and bewitch him to death, and the Moldywarp to the other, and bewitch him to death, which they did; and within tenne dayes they dyed. These foure were bewitched while this Examinate dwelt at *Waltham* aforesaid.

About three yeares since, this Examinate remoued thence to *Stathorne*, where she now dwelt: vpon a difference betweene the said *Willimot* and the wife of *Iohn Patchet* of the said *Stathorne* Yeoman, shee the said *Willimot* called her this Examinate to goe and touch

the said *Iohn Patchets* Wife and her Childe, which shee did, touching the said *Iohn Patchets* wife in her bed, and the childe in the Grace-wifes armes, and then sent her said spirits to bewitch them to death, which they did, and so the woman lay languishing by the space of a moneth and more, for then shee dyed; the childe dyed the next day after she touched it.

And shee further saith, that the said *Ioane Willimot* had a spirit sucking on her, vnder the left flanke, in the likenesse of a little white Dogge, which this Examinate saith, that she saw the same sucking in Barley-harueſt last, being then at the house of the said *Ioan Willimot*.

And for her selfe, this Examinate further saith, that shee gaue her soule to the Diuell to haue these spirits at her command; for a confirmation whereof, she suffered them to suck her alwayes as aforesaid about the change and full of the Moone.

H. Hastings.

Samuel Fleming.

The

The Examination of *Phillip Flower*, Sister of *Margaret Flower*, and Daughters of *Ioane Flower*, before Sr *William Pelham*, and Mr. *Butler*, Iustices of the Peace, *Febr.* 4. 1618. Which was brought in at the Assizes as euidence against her Sister *Margaret*.

SHe saith, that her mother and her sister maliced the Earle of *Rutland*, his Countesse, and their Children, because her Sister *Margaret*, was put out of the Ladies seruice of Laundry, and exempted from other seruices about the house, whereupon her said sister, by the commandement of her mother, brought from the Castle the right hand gloue of the Lord *Henry Rosse*, which she deliuered to her Mother; who presently rubd it on the backe of her Spirit *Rutterkin*, and then put it into hot boyling water, afterward shee pricked it often, and buried it in the yard, wishing the Lord *Rosse* might neuer thriue, and so her Sister *Margaret* continued with her mother, where shee often saw the cat *Rutterkin* leape on her shoulder, and sucke her necke.

Shee further confessed, that shee heard her mother often curse the Earle and his Lady, and thereupon would boyle feathers and blood together, vsing many Diuellish speeches and strange gestures.

The

The Examination of *Margaret Flower*, Sister of *Phillip Flower*. &c, about the 22. of *January*. 1618.

SHe saith and confesseth, that about foure or fiue yeare since her Mother sent her for the right hand gloue of *Henry* Lord *Rosse*, afterward that her mother bade her goe againe into the Castle of *Beauer*, and bring downe the gloue or some other thing of *Henry* Lord *Rosse*, and shee askt what to doe? Her Mother replyed to hurt my Lord *Rosse*: whereupon she brought downe a gloue, and deliuered the same to her Mother, who stroked *Rutterkin* her Cat with it, after it was dipt in hot water, and so prickt it often, after which *Henry* Lord *Rosse* fell sicke within a weeke, and was much tormented with the same.

She further saith, that finding a gloue about two or three yeares since of *Francis* Lord *Rosse*, on a dung-hill, she deliuered it to her mother, who put it into hot water, and after tooke it out and rubd it on *Rutterkin* the Cat, and bad him goe vpwards, and after her mother buried it in the yard, and said a mischiefe light on him, but he will mend againe.

Shee further saith, that her Mother and shee, and her Sister agreed together to bewitch the Earle and his Lady, that they might haue no more children: and being demanded the cause of this their mallice and ill will; shee saith, that about foure yeares since

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the Counteſſe (growing into ſome miſlike with her) gaue her forty ſhillings, a bolſter, & a mattreſſe, and bad her lye at home, and come no more to dwell at the Caſtle; which ſhe not onely tooke in ill part, but grudged at it exceedingly, ſwearing in her heart to be reuenged. After this, her Mother complained to the Earle againſt one *Peake*, who had offered her ſome wrong, wherein ſhe conceiued that the Earle tooke not her part, as ſhee expected, which diſlike with the reſt, exaſperated her diſpleaſure againſt him, and ſo ſhe watched an opportunity to bee reuenged: whereupon ſhe tooke wooll out of the ſaid mattreſſe, and a paire of gloues, which were giuen her by Mr. *Vauaſor*, and put them into warme water, mingling them with ſome blood, and ſtirring it together, then ſhe tooke the wooll and gloues out of the water, and rubd them on the belly of *Rutterkin* her Cat, ſaying the Lord and the Lady ſhould haue more Children, but it would be long firſt.

Shee further confeſſeth, that by her mothers commandement, ſhee brought to her a peece of a handkercher of the Lady *Katherine* the Earles daughter, and her mother put it into hot water, & then taking it out, rubd it on *Rutterkin*, bidding him flye, and go; whereupon *Rutterkin* whined and cryed Mew: whereupon ſhee ſaid, that *Rutterkin* had no power ouer the Lady *Katherine* to hurt her.

The

The Examination of *Phillip Flower*, the 25. of *February*, 1618. before *Francis* Earle of Rutland, *Francis* Lord *Willoughby* of Ersby, Sr. *George Manners*, and Sr. *William Pelham*.

SHee confesseth and saith, that shee hath a Spirit sucking on her in the forme of a white Rat, which keepeth her left breast, and hath so done for three or foure yeares, and concerning the agreement betwixt her Spirit and her selfe, she confesseth and saith, that when it came first vnto her, shee gaue her Soule to it, and it promised to doe her good, and cause *Thomas Simpson* to loue her, if shee would suffer it to sucke her, which shee agreed vnto; and so the last time it suckt was on Tuesday at night, the 23. of *February*.

The

The Examination of *Margaret Flower*, at the same time, &c.

SHee confesseth, that she hath two familiar Spirits sucking on her, the one white, the other black spotted; the white sucked vnder her left brest, and the blacke spotted within the inward parts of her secrets. When shee first entertained them she promised them her soule, and they couenanted to doe all things which she commanded them, &c.

Shee further saith, that about the 30. of *Ianuary*, last past, being Saturday, foure Diuells appeared vnto her in *Lincolne* layle, at eleauen or twelue a clocke at midnight: The one stood at her beds feete, with a blacke head like an Ape, and spake vnto her; but what, shee cannot well remember, at which shee was very angry because hee would speake no plainer, or let her vnderstand his meaning: the other three were *Rutterkin*, *Little Robin*, and *Spirit*; but shee neuer mistrusted them, nor suspected her selfe, till then.

There is another Examination of the said *Margaret Flower*, taken the fourth of *Februarie*, 1618. tending to this effect.

THat being asked what shee knoweth concerning the bewitching of the Earle of Rutland, his wife, and children, shee saith, that it is

true, that her selfe, her mother, and sister were all displeased with him, especially with the Countesse, for turning her out of seruice, whereupon some foure yeare since, her mother commanded her to goe vp to the Castle, and bring her the right hand gloue of the Lord *Henry Rosse*, the Earles eldest sonne; which gloue she found on the rushes in the Nurcery, and deliuered the same to her Mother, who put it into hot water, prickt it often with her knife, then tooke it out of the water, and rubd it vpon *Rutterkin*, bidding him height and goe, and doe some hurt to *Henry* Lord *Rosse*, whereupon hee fell sicke, and shortly after dyed, which her Mother hearing of, said it was well: but after shee had rubd the gloue on the Spirit *Rutterkin*, shee threw it into the fire and burnt it, &c.

THese Examinations and some others were taken and charily preserued for the contriuing of sufficient euidences against them, and when the Iudges of Assise came downe to Lincolne about the first weeke of *March*, being Sr. *Henry Hobert*, Lord chiefe Iustice of the Common Pleas, and Sr. *Ed: Bromley* one of the Barons of the Exchequer, they were presented vnto them, who not only wondred at the wickednesse of these persons, but were amazed at their practises and horrible contracts with the Diuel to damne their own soules: And although the Right Honorable Earle had sufficient griefe for the losse of his Children; yet no

doubt

doubt it was the greater to consider the manner, and how it pleased God to inflict on him such a fashion of visitation: Besides, as it amazed the hearers to vnderstand the particulars, and the circumstances of this diuellish contract, so was it as wonderfull to see their desperate impenitency, and horrible distraction, according to the rest of that sort, exclaiming against the Diuell for deluding them, and now breaking promise with them, when they stood in most need of his helpe.

Notwithstanding all these aggrauations, such was the vnparalleld magnanimity, wisedome, and patience of this generous Noble-man, that hee vrged nothing against them more then their owne confessions, and so quietly left them to iudiciall triall, desiring of God mercy for their soules, and of men charity to censure them in their condemnation: but God is not mocked, and so gaue them ouer to iudgement, nor man so reformed, but for the Earles sake, they cursed them to that place which they themselues long before had bargained for.

What now remaines (gentle Reader) but for thee to make vse of so wonderfull a Story, and remarkable an accident, out of which, to draw to a conclusion, thou maist collect these particulars. First, that God is the supreame commander of all things, and permitteth wonderfull actions in the World, for the tryall of the godly, the punishment of the wicked, and his owne glory: of which man shall neuer attaine to know the reason or occasion. Secondly, that the Diuell is the meere seruant and

agent of God, to prosecute whatsoeuer hee shall command rather then giue leaue vnto; limiting him yet thus farre in his owne nature, that he can go no further then the bounds within which hee is hedged. Thirdly, that this God hath punishments, *ad correctionem*, that is to say, chasticements of the godly, *& ad ruinam, Videlicet*, Iudgements against the wicked, wherein yet man must disclaime any knowledge, and forsake preiudicate opinions. For the very iust shall be tried like gold, and no man exempted from castigation whom God doth loue. Fourthly, that this Diuell, though he bee Gods Instrument, yet worketh altogether by deceit: for as hee was a lyer from the beginning; so let no man trust him, because he aymeth at the confusion of all Mankinde. Fiftly, that the wicked, (howeuer they may thriue and prosper for a time) yet in the end are sure to be payed home, either with punishment in this life or in the life to come, or both, as a finall reward of monstrous impiety. Sixtly, that Man in his frailty must not presume of prosperity; but prepare a kinde of stooping vnder the hand of God, when it pleaseth him to strike or punish vs. Seauenthly, that there is no murmuring nor repining against God, but quietly to tolerate his inflictings, whensoeuer they chance, of which this worthy Earle is a memorable example to all men and Ages. Eightly, that the punishments of the wicked are so many warnings to all irregular sinners to amend their liues, and auoid the iudgement to come, by penitency and newnesse of life. Ninthly, that

though

though man could bee content to passe ouer blasphemies and offences against the Statutes of Princes, yet God will ouertake them in their own walks, and pull them backe by the sleeue into a slaughter-house, as here you know the euidences against these people tooke life and power from their owne Confessions. Tenthly, and last of all, that priuate opinion cannot preuaile againstpublique censures: for here you see the learned and religious Iudges cryed out with our Sauiour, *Ex ore tuo.* Therefore though it were so, that neither Witch nor Diuell could doe these things, yet *Let not a Witch liue*, saith God, and *Let them dye* (saith the Law of England) *that haue conuersation with spirits, and presume to blaspheme the name of God with spels and incantation.* O then you sonnes of men, take warning by these examples, and eyther diuert your steps from the broad way of destruction, and inrecouerable gulph of damnation, or with *Iosuahs* counsell to *Achan*, blesse God for the discouery of wickednesse, and take thy death patiently, as the preuention of thy future iudgement, and sauing innocents from punishment, who otherwise may be suspected without a cause.

Vtinam tam facile vera inuenire possem, quam falsa conuincere.

FINIS.